

From: "Karen Middendorp" <karen@msasnow.org>
To: <office@msasnow.org>
Date: 10/16/2009 12:05 PM
Subject: Governors Executive Order 2009-45

October 16, 2009

To The Members of the Michigan Legislature:

The Michigan Snowmobile Association would like to inform you that we are very unhappy with the removal of the Snowmobile Advisory Committee in the Governors Executive Order 2009-45.

In the directive the duties and responsibilities are transferred to a new seven-member Michigan Trails Advisory Council within the DNRE that will advise the Governor and the DNRE director on creating, developing, operating and maintaining motorized and non-motorized trails in Michigan, and appears at least initially to have only "1" member on the council representing snowmobile interests!

How many battles have we had over the years with non-motorized interest groups who want to abolish or restrict snowmobiling? The Governor intends to grant authority and jurisdiction over our sport to these proven adversaries of snowmobiling. The MSA was shocked by the announcement. President Don Reed condemned the action. "Snowmobile grant sponsors relied on the SAC committee and MSA to work with the administration to move our program forward and work through the issues that would arise from time to time" Reed said, "With that core group of stakeholders gone and new groups that have been adversarial with MSA in the past now setting snowmobile guidelines and recommendations, I am very concerned about the direction of future state policy." "When snowmobilers pay 100% of the cost of snowmobile trails, and contribute well over a billion dollars a year to Michigan's ailing economy, why mess with one of the brightest spots in Michigan tourism? Our program is a national model and a proven winner and it doesn't cost the state a penny".

Please reinstate the Snowmobile Advisory Committee!

Thank You,

Board of Directors

Michigan Snowmobile Association

4336 PLAINFIELD Ave NE

Grand Rapids Mi 49525

Phone 616/361-5861

Fax 616/363-0661

800/246-0260